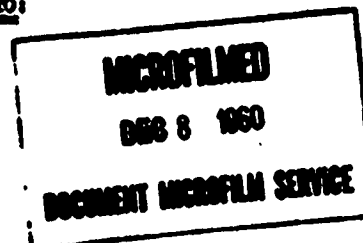


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SECURITY INFORMATION

204
MICROFILM

SYRIA/LEBANON
Political/CN
The Arab Higher Executive

1. Following the assault last month by adherents of the Lebanese Minister of Defense on ~~EMILE GHURRY~~^{GHURI} of the Arab Higher Executive, in BEIRUT, the ex-Mufti of JERUSALEM, has been deliberating whether or not to close down the A/H/E offices there and in DAMASCUS. He has decided to keep them in existence but on a skeleton basis: expenditure, activities, and staff are all to be cut down for the time being as a conciliatory gesture and to avoid further brushes with the Lebanese and Syrian authorities.

2. Recent efforts by the A/H/E in DAMASCUS to establish collaboration with the Syrian Ikhwan al-Muslamin^(Muslim Brotherhood) have failed. The Brotherhood is determined to have no dealings with the A/H/E, for fear of repressive action ~~against it~~ by Colonel SHISHAKLI.